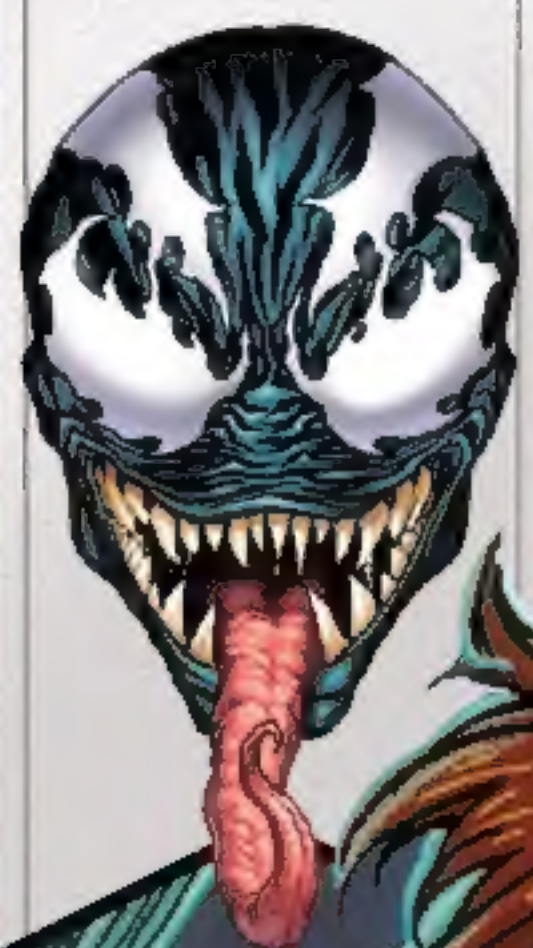


MARVEL

LEGACY

LETHAL PROTECTOR

157



VENOM



3/14/17
RAUCH

COSTA
BAGLEY
DELL
HANNA
ALMARA

YEARS AGO, PETER PARKER (A.K.A. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN) ACCIDENTALLY BONDED WITH AN ALIEN BEING CALLED A SYMBIOTE. WHEN PETER REALIZED THE COSTUME WAS ACTUALLY AN AGGRESSIVE LIVING ORGANISM, HE REJECTED IT. BUT DURING THEIR TIME TOGETHER, THE SYMBIOTE HAD ACCESS TO SPIDER-MAN'S GENETIC CODE AND NOW GRANTS WHOMEVER IT BONDS WITH SKILLS SIMILAR TO HIS: WALL-CRAWLING, THE POWER TO GENERATE BIOORGANIC WEBBING AND UNIQUE ABILITIES TO SHAPE-SHIFT AND BECOME INVISIBLE, TURNING THEM INTO...

VENOM



IN EXCHANGE FOR A SERUM THAT KEEPS HIS SYMBIOTE UNDER CONTROL, VENOM HAS BEEN MONITORING A SUBTERRANEAN COMMUNITY OF DINOSAUR-PEOPLE ON BEHALF OF ALCHEMAX.

BUT A NEW PREDATOR HAS BEEN SKULKING THROUGH THE SEWERS...KRAVEN THE HUNTER!

IN THEIR FIRST CLASH, KRAVEN USED A HIGH-CALIBER RIFLE TO CRITICALLY INJURE VENOM! BADLY WOUNDED, HE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO GO TO ALCHEMAX FOR HELP...

**MIKE
COSTA**
WRITER

**MARK
BAGLEY**
PENCILER

**JOHN DELL &
SCOTT HANNA**
INKERS

**DONO
SÁNCHEZ-ALMARA**
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DAN BUCKLEY
PRESIDENT

ALAN FINE
EXEC. PRODUCER

AS THE
MAYOR OF THE
GREAT CITY OF NEW YORK,
LAW AND ORDER IS
MY NUMBER ONE
PRIORITY.



THE
FACT
CHANNEL

A CRUCIAL PART OF "ORDER" IS **SAFETY**, WHICH IS OF PARAMOUNT CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR CITY TODAY, IN LIGHT OF RECENT REVELATIONS BY THE TIRELESS JOURNALISTS AT OUR FACT CHANNEL.

I'M HERE TODAY TO CONFIRM THAT, UNFORTUNATELY, THOSE CONTROVERSIAL REPORTS ARE **TRUE**. THERE IS A POPULATION OF FERAL AND POTENTIALLY **DANGEROUS** CREATURES LIVING BENEATH THE CITY.

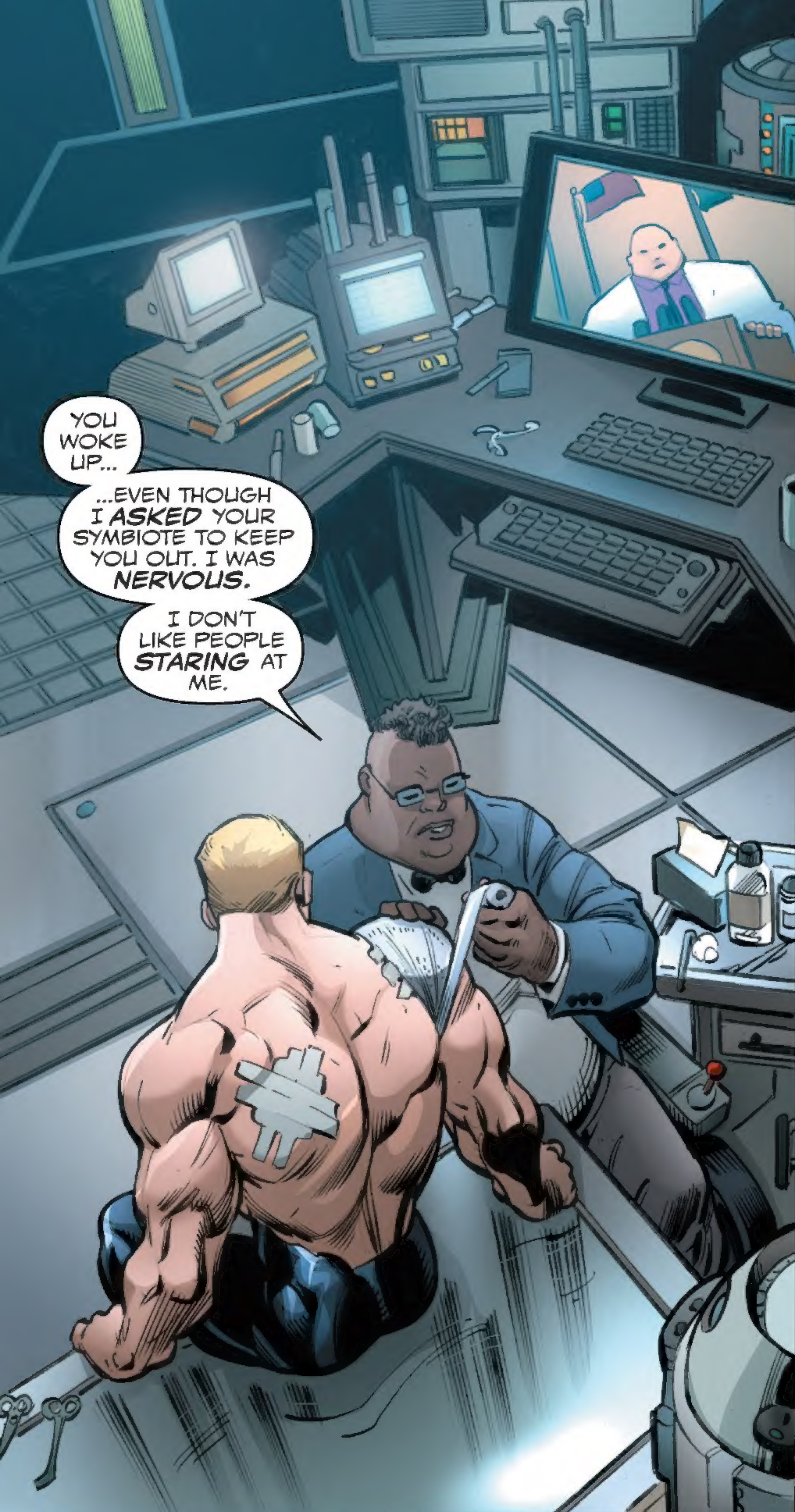
WELL, YOU'VE REALLY MADE A MESS OF THIS.

ME?
I WASN'T THE ONE WHO LEFT A COLONY OF DINOSAUR PEOPLE WHO COULD LEAD DIRECTLY BACK TO **ALCHEMAX** TO LIVE FREELY IN THE SEWERS.

I MEANT YOUR **STITCHING**.

I'D HAVE EXPECTED A CHEMIST TO HAVE **STEADIER HANDS**.

WELL, I'M **NOT** A CHEMIST.



YOU WOKE UP...

...EVEN THOUGH I ASKED YOUR SYMBIOTE TO KEEP YOU OUT. I WAS NERVOUS.

I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE STARING AT ME.



I DIDN'T COME HERE FOR YOU TO STITCH ME UP. THIS BUILDING IS PRACTICALLY ITS OWN CITY.

WHY DIDN'T YOU BRING ME TO THE INFIRMARY?



THE WORK I DO FOR YOU IS A SECRET.

THE DEAL YOU HAVE WITH MS. ALLAN IS A SECRET.

LOOK AT THE NEWS. WE CAN'T GO A FEW DAYS WITHOUT A VENOM SIGHTING. AND THE NEGATIVE PRESS ISN'T MAKING MS. ALLAN HAPPY.

ALSO, I DON'T KNOW ANYONE NOT ON THIS FLOOR. AND I... DON'T LIKE TO USE THE TELEPHONE.



I NOW TURN THIS PRESS CONFERENCE OVER TO POLICE COMMISSIONER CHRIS RAFFERTY TO LAY OUT OUR IMMEDIATE STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH THIS THREAT.

THANK YOU, MAYOR FISK.



WHAT I'M
GOING TO DO
TO THE MAN WHO
STABBED ME...
WON'T.



WHO
DID STAB YOU,
ANYWAY?

I'D HATE
TO SEE **THAT**
MAN.




NEW YORK CITY IS THE GREATEST CITY IN THE WORLD, AND ITS PEOPLE
ARE THE **GREATEST** PEOPLE IN THE WORLD. AND AS ALWAYS, THE NYPD
WILL DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO KEEP THOSE PEOPLE **SAFE**.




THAT'S
HIM.






SERGEI KRAVINOFF
COMES FROM A FAMILY WITH
MANY GENERATIONS OF HISTORY
WITH THIS CITY. HE HAS BEEN A
DONOR AND CONTRIBUTOR TO
OUR PARKS AND WILDLIFE
PRESERVATION INITIATIVES--
AND MORE, I CONSIDER
HIM A FRIEND.

THANK YOU,
COMMISSIONER. AS
MANY OF YOU KNOW, I HAVE
DEDICATED MY **LIFE** TO THE
STUDY AND PRESERVATION
OF THE NATURAL WORLD. BUT
NOT AT THE COST OF OUR
WORLD, SO BESET AS IT
IS BY COUNTLESS
THREATS!



THAT
MAN'S PHYSIQUE
IS **IMPRESSIVE**
FOR HIS AGE. LION
MEAT IS OBVIOUSLY
VERY RICH IN
PROTEIN.

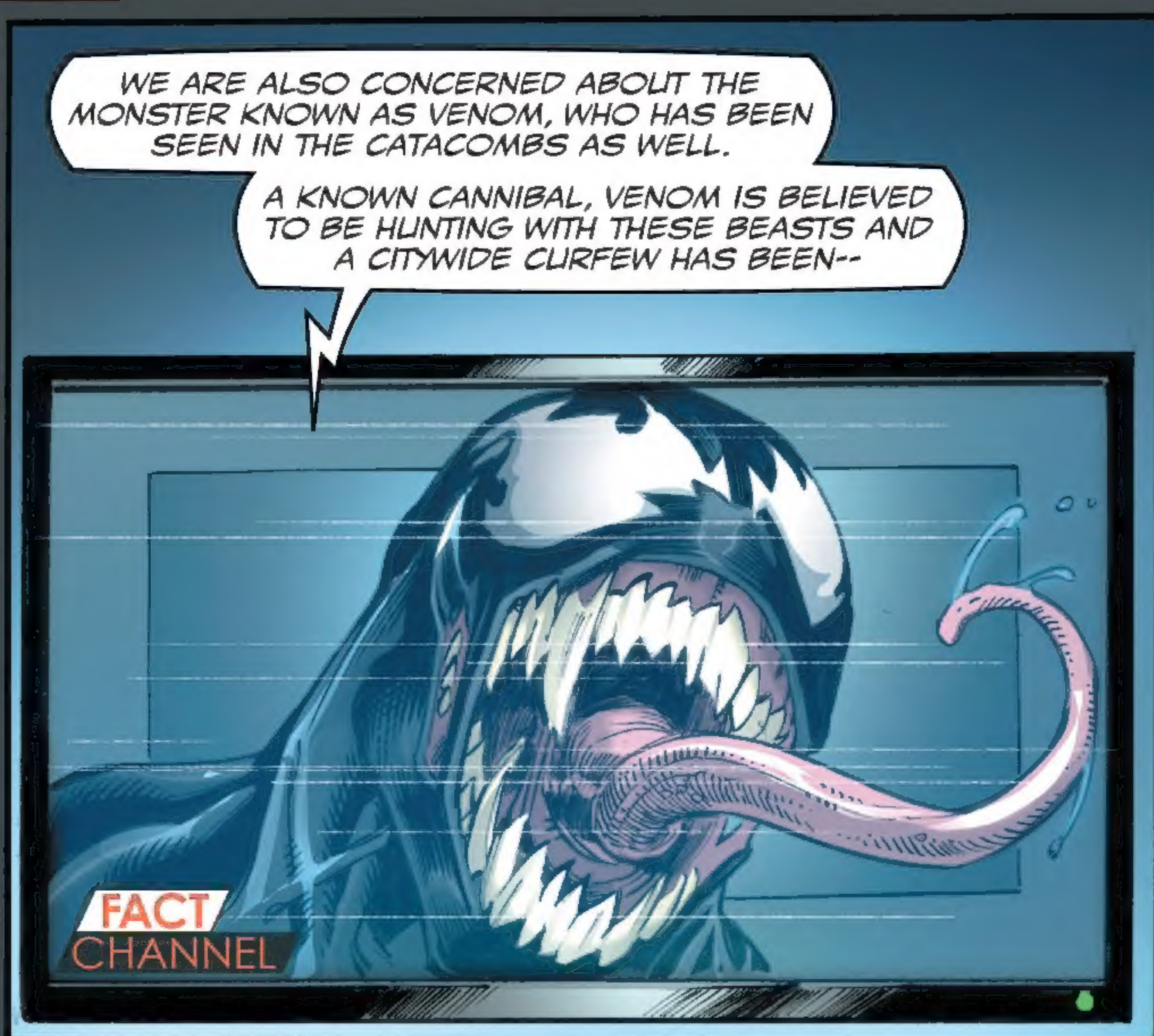


SO IT WAS
WITH GREAT ALARM
THAT I GOT WORD FROM
MY FRIEND, COMMISSIONER
RAFFERTY, OF **THIS**--A THREAT
THAT'S GROWN **HERE**,
BENEATH THE **STREETS**
YOUR CHILDREN
PLAY ON.

BUT I HAVE
PLEGGED MY
EXPERTISE TO THIS
CITY TO RID IT OF THIS
MONSTROUS
THREAT.



SSSSSSSSSS...



WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE MONSTER KNOWN AS VENOM, WHO HAS BEEN SEEN IN THE CATACOMBS AS WELL.

A KNOWN CANNIBAL, VENOM IS BELIEVED TO BE HUNTING WITH THESE BEASTS AND A CITYWIDE CURFEW HAS BEEN--



THE POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!

THE POLICE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN LOOKING FOR US. THAT'S PART OF WHY OUR ARRANGEMENT WITH ALCHEMAX HAS BEEN KEPT SECRET.

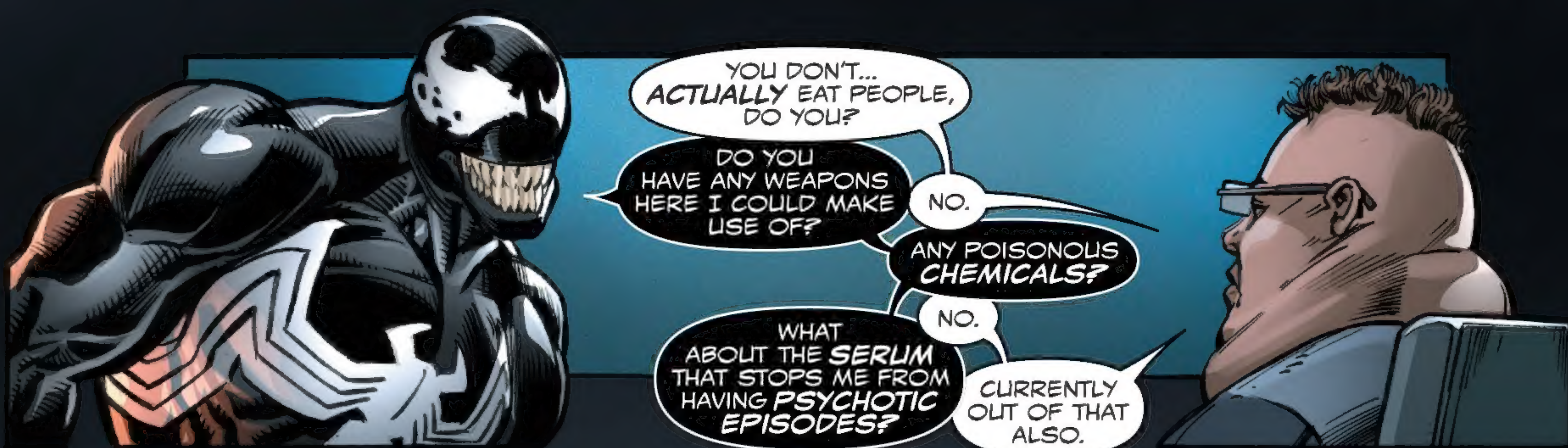


BUT THEY'VE DEPUTIZED A SUPERHUMAN HUNTER TO FIND YOU AND THE DINOSAURS.

NOW WHAT'S STOPPING THE POLICE FROM FOLLOWING KRAVEN TO THE DINOSAURS? TO US?



THEY CAN'T FOLLOW... IF KRAVEN IS DEAD.



YOU DON'T...
ACTUALLY EAT PEOPLE,
DO YOU?

DO YOU
HAVE ANY WEAPONS
HERE I COULD MAKE
USE OF?

NO.

ANY POISONOUS
CHEMICALS?

NO.

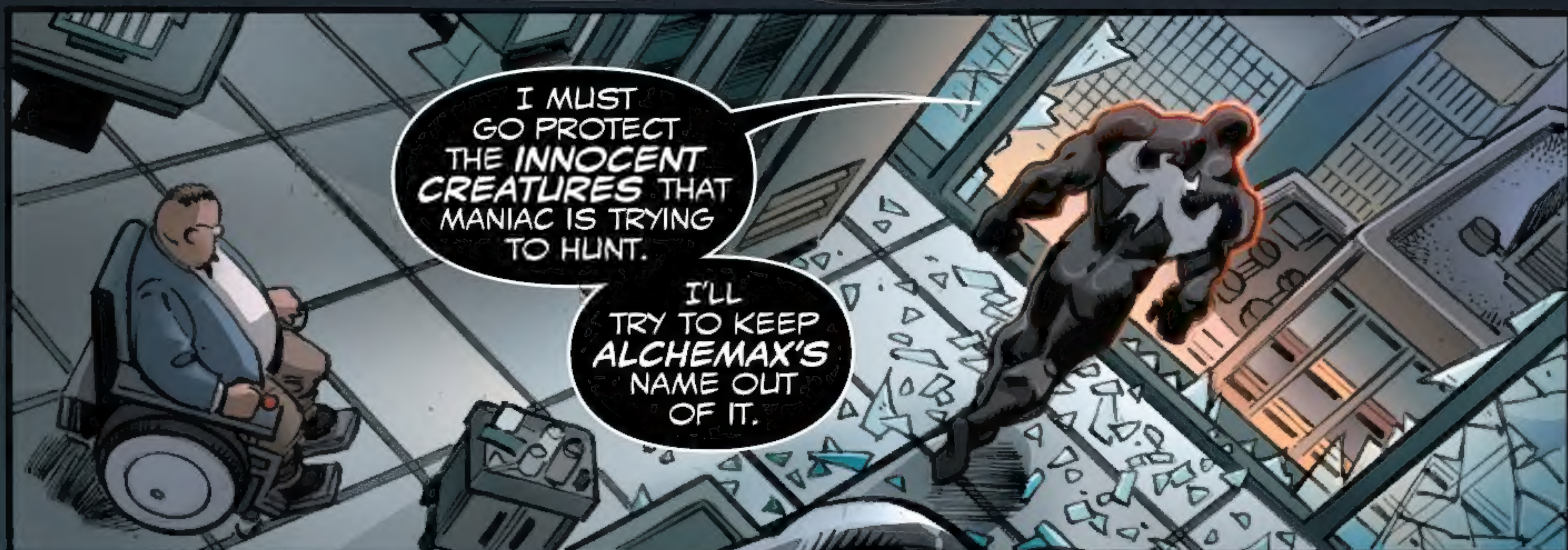
WHAT
ABOUT THE **SERUM**
THAT STOPS ME FROM
HAVING **PSYCHOTIC**
EPISODES?

CURRENTLY
OUT OF THAT
ALSO.



YOU AREN'T
MUCH **HELP** TO US,
ARE YOU?

I **DID**
SAVE YOUR
LIFE WITH MY
SHOELACE.



I MUST
GO PROTECT
THE **INNOCENT**
CREATURES THAT
MANIAC IS TRYING
TO HUNT.

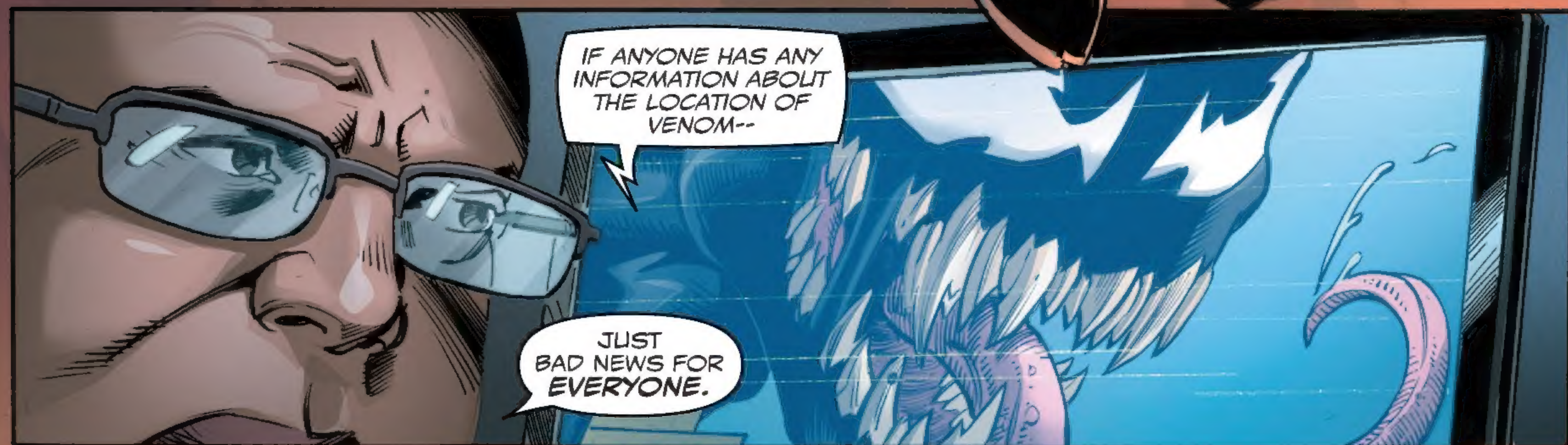
I'LL
TRY TO KEEP
ALCHEMAX'S
NAME OUT
OF IT.



DON'T
TELL LIZ I WAS
HERE.

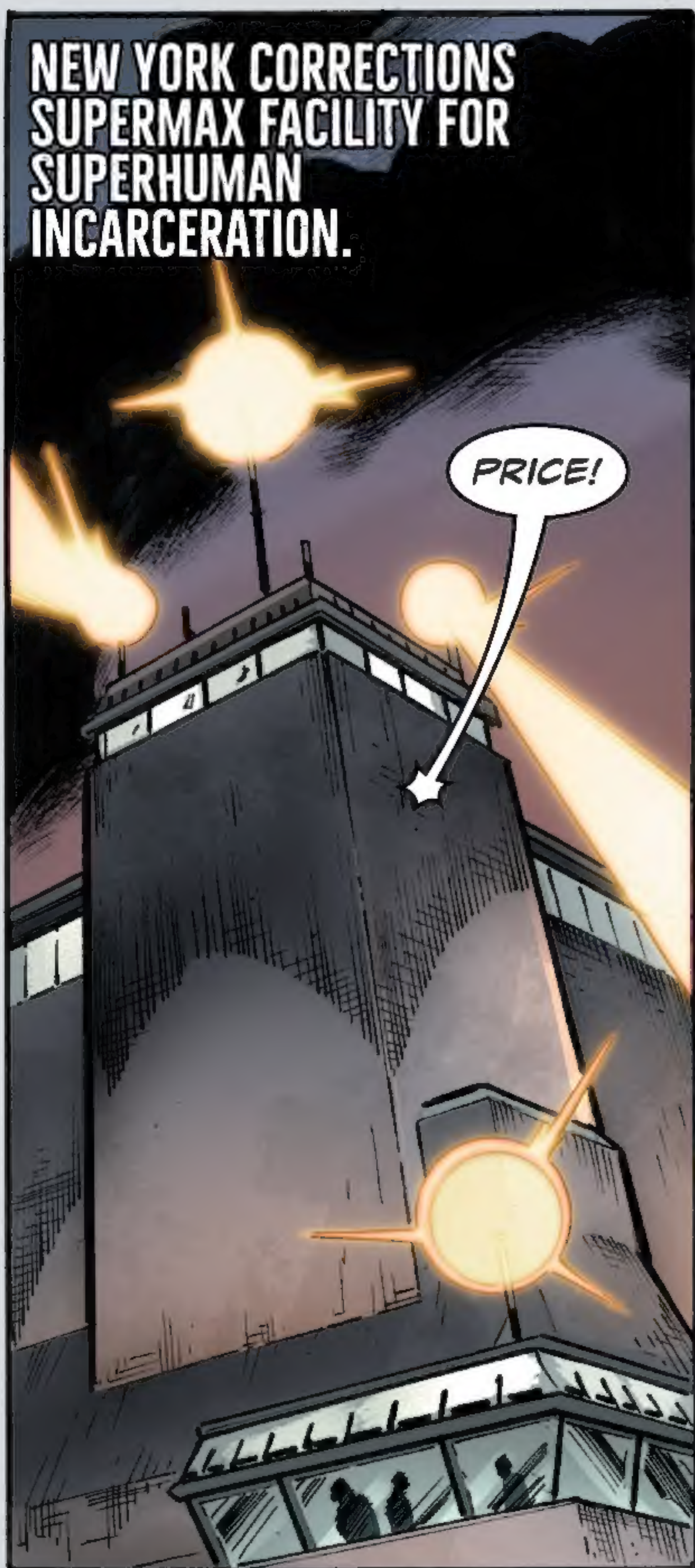


I
DEFINITELY
WON'T.



IF ANYONE HAS ANY
INFORMATION ABOUT
THE LOCATION OF
VENOM--

JUST
BAD NEWS FOR
EVERYONE.



NEW YORK CORRECTIONS
SUPERMAX FACILITY FOR
SUPERHUMAN
INCARCERATION.

PRICE!



TIME TO
PUT THE **GLOVES**
ON.

YOUR
LAWYER IS
HERE.



BAD
NEWS.

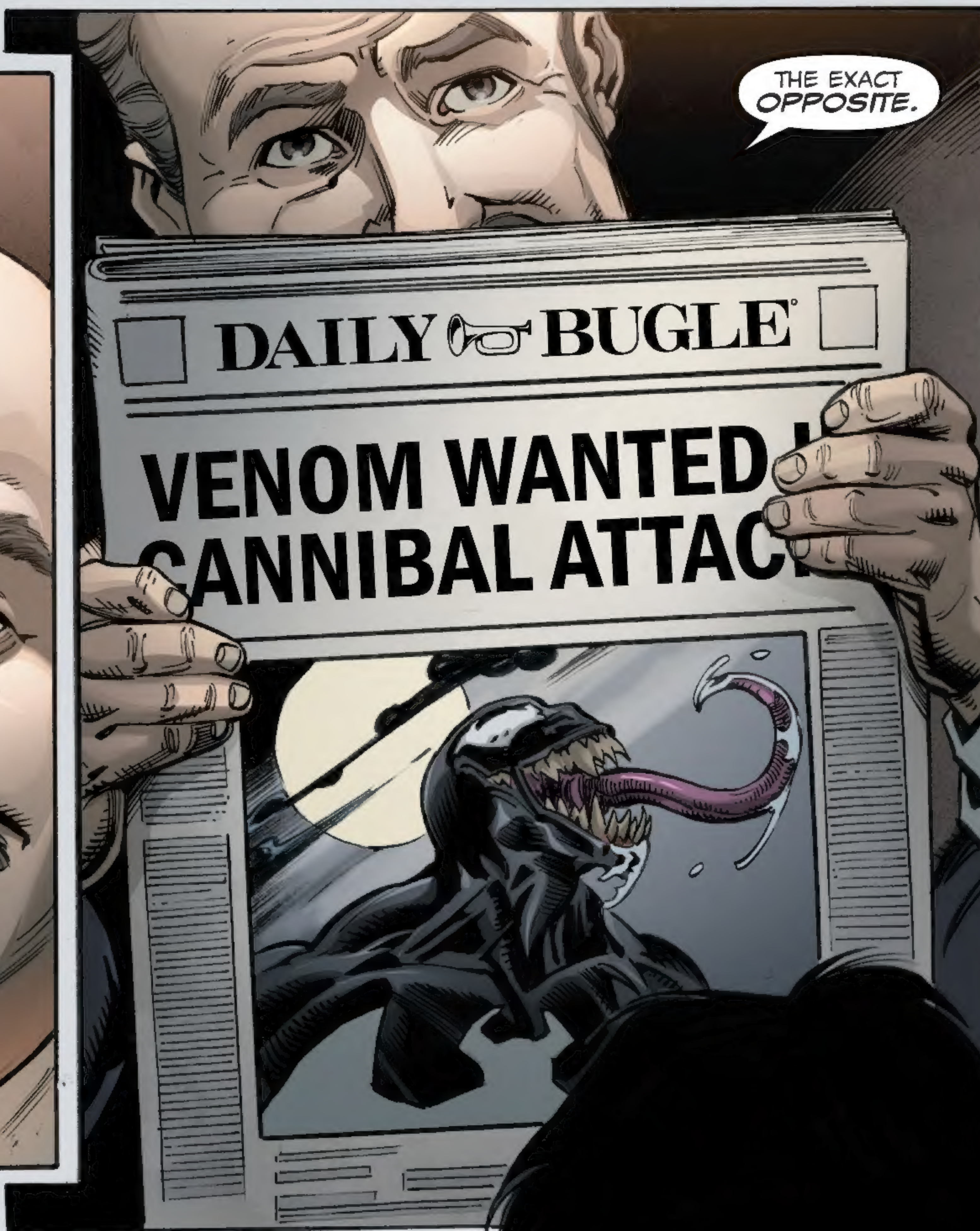
TWO OF
THOSE MEN
YOU ATTACKED
DIED.



YOU CAME
ALL THE WAY
OUT HERE TO
GIVE ME **BAD**
NEWS?




ACTUALLY...
NO.




THE EXACT
OPPOSITE.

DAILY BUGLE

**VENOM WANTED!
CANNIBAL ATTACK!**



THERE ARE TWO DOZEN MEMBERS OF THE NYPD JOINING KRAVEN ON HIS "HUNT."




THESE MEN ARE INNOCENT--IGNORANTLY FOLLOWING ORDERS OF CORRUPT LEADERS.




WE WALK WITH THEM LONG ENOUGH TO GET THE PLAN.

WE KNOW WHERE THE PERIMETER IS.


WHICH ENTRANCES ARE WATCHED.




SO WE TREAT THIS ONE MORE GENTLY THAN WE MIGHT OTHERWISE.



THEY HAVEN'T FOUND THE VILLAGE YET...



...BUT THEY WILL.



IN THE MEANTIME, WE PUSH AHEAD TO DISCOVER WHERE KRAVEN HAS SET HIS TRAPS.



WE MAKE
SURE WE STAY
DOWNWIND.



WE FOLLOW HIM
THROUGH **THREE**
CHAMBERS UNTIL
WE ARE **CERTAIN**
HE DOESN'T KNOW
WE'RE BEHIND HIM.

THERE IS ONLY
THE RIFLE AND THE
KNIFE, AND BOTH
ARE HOLSTERED.



HE WON'T GET
THE DROP ON
US AGAIN.

THWIP
THWIP



AH. I'D
EXPECTED
YOU MIGHT MAKE
IT THROUGH THE
TRAPS I
SET.



EXCELLENT.
THEN YOU
SHOULDN'T BE
SURPRISED BY
WHAT'S ABOUT
TO HAPPEN.



I'M SORRY,
I CAN'T HEAR YOU.
I'M WEARING INDUSTRIAL-
STRENGTH EAR
PROTECTION.

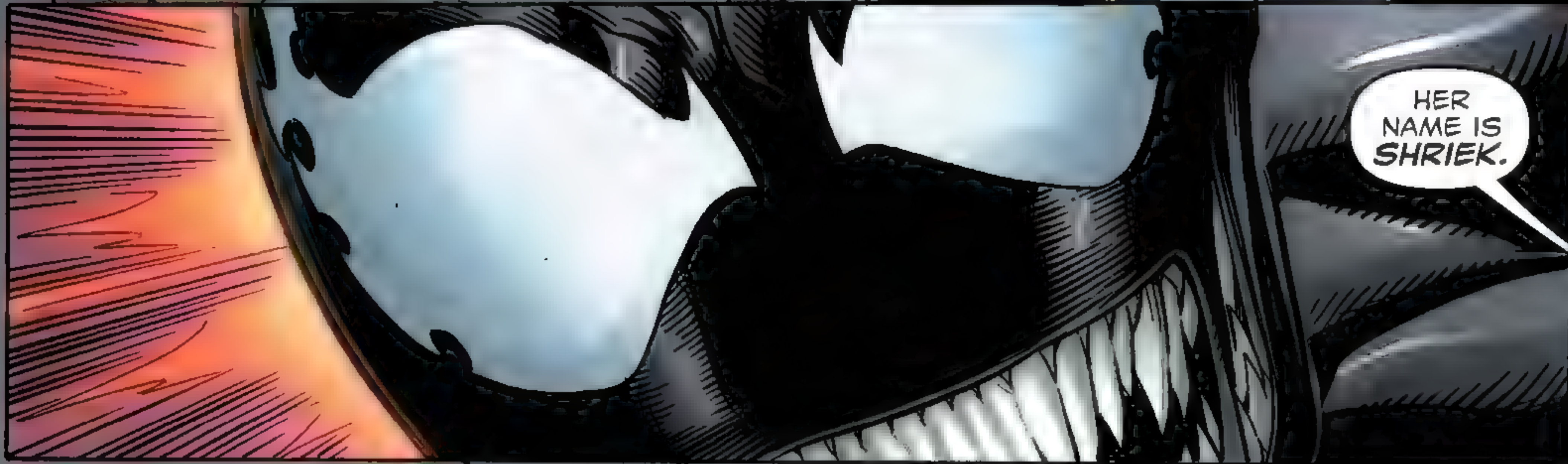


A NEW
FRIEND OF MINE
INTRODUCED ME TO
AN OLD FRIEND OF
YOURS.

YOU
PROBABLY
WEREN'T **EXPECTING**
HER, SO I DOUBT
YOU **NOTICED**
HER.

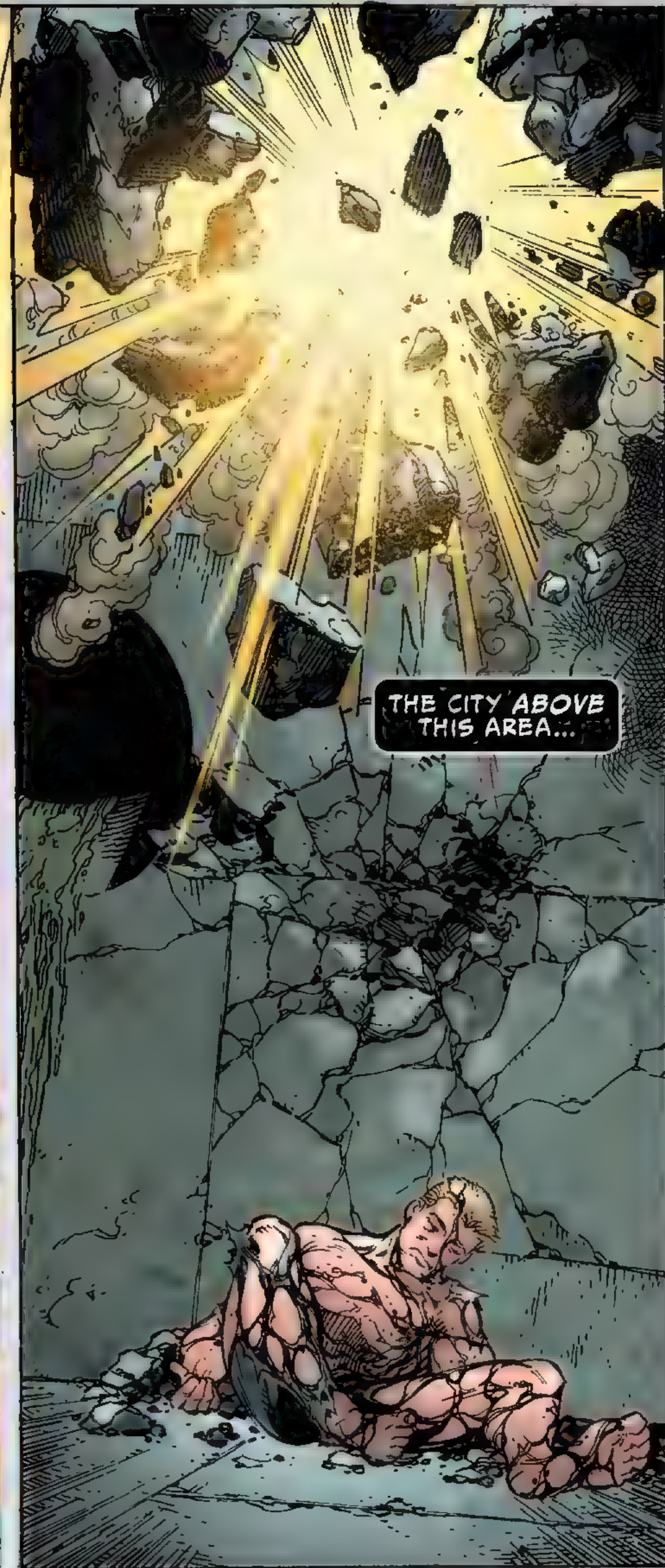
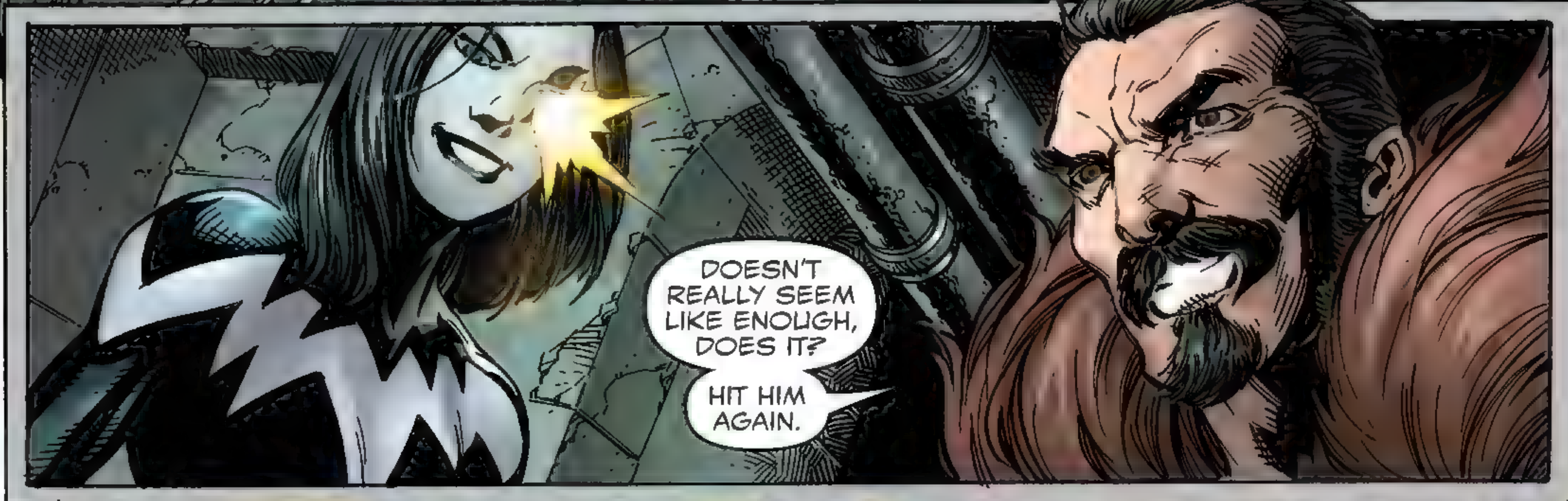
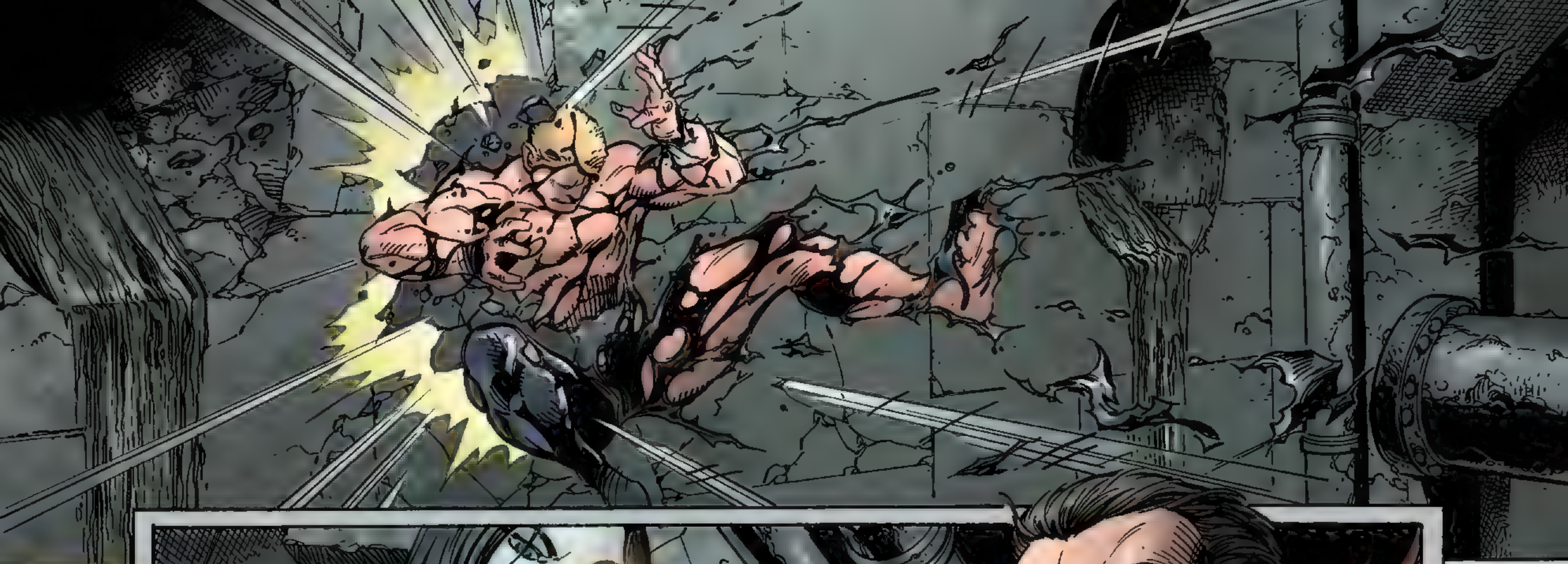


WAIT...
EDDIE, WE
KNOW THAT
WOMAN.

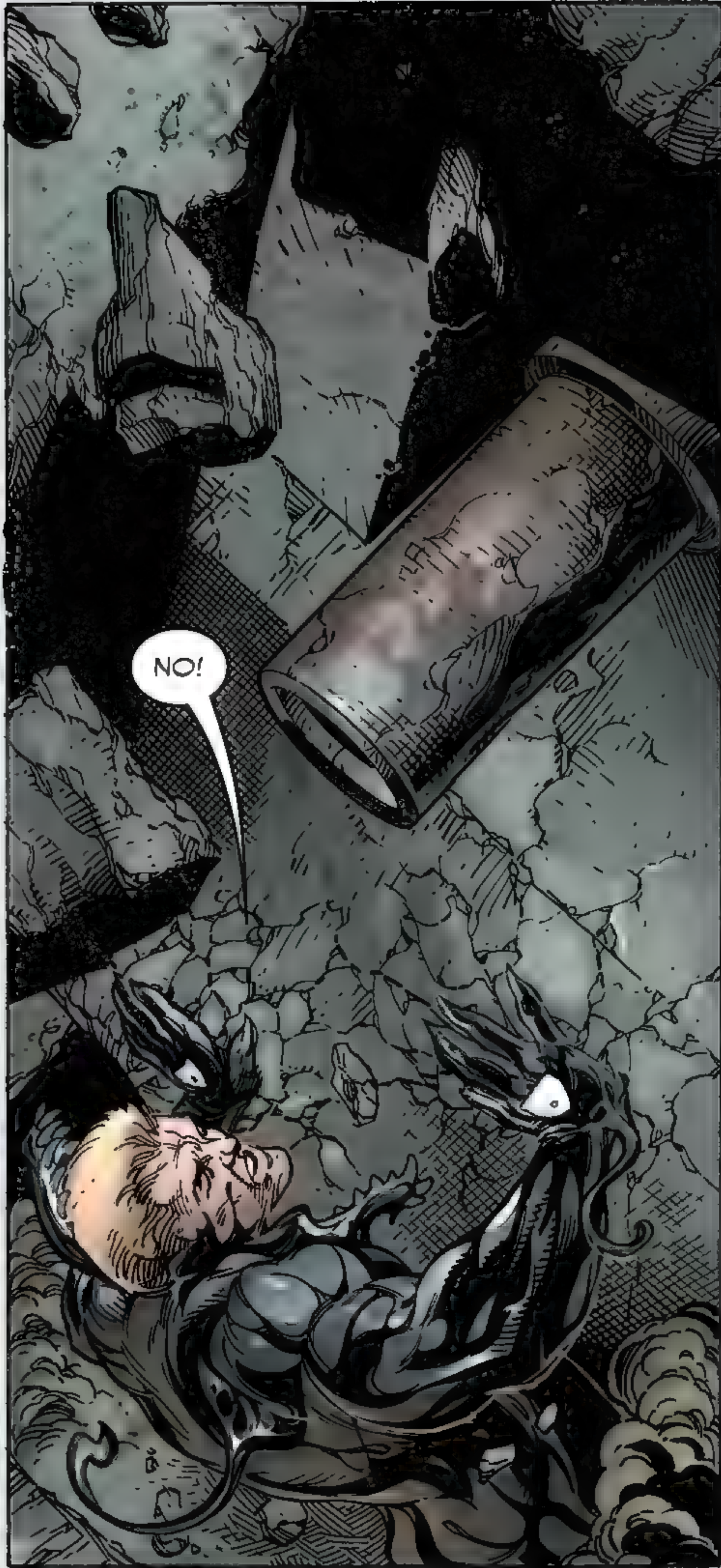


HER
NAME IS
SHRIEK.











SLOPPY!
CAN'T YOU CONTROL
YOURSELF BETTER
THAN THAT?



I WANTED
HIS HEAD FOR A
TROPHY AND NOW YOU'VE
BURIED HIM IN
THERE!



YOU WANTED
HIM DEAD, HE'S
DEAD.

YOU WANT A
TROPHY, GO PLAY
LITTLE LEAGUE.



I'LL
JUST HAVE TO
ENSLAVE A FEW OF
THOSE BEASTS BELOW
AND GET THEM TO
DIG IT OUT.

BUT YOUR
OBLIGATION
TO ME IS NOT
FULFILLED
UNTIL THAT
HAPPENS.

UNTIL
THEN, KEEP
OUT OF THE
WAY.

THE HUNT
IS ABOUT TO
BEGIN.



NO, HENO!
YOU CAN'T SEND
OUT FORAGING
PARTIES.

I TOLD
YOU, THERE'S
SOMETHING
HUNTING
US.



YOU SAID
THE SAVIOR
CAUGHT HIM AND
DROVE HIM
OFF.

THE
SAVIOR WAS
HURT! LONGO WAS
KILLED! WE DON'T
KNOW IF HE'S BEEN
DRIVEN OFF.



SERGEANT?
TELL YOUR MEN
TO FALL BACK
AND **STAY**
BACK.



SIR? THERE'S **DOZENS** OF
THEM DOWN THERE. WE
SHOULD DEPLOY **GAS**,
AT LEAST.

NO! YOU'RE
TO FOLLOW MY
LEAD, AND I'M LEADING
YOU **OUT OF THE WAY**.
NONE OF YOUR MEN
ARE TO ENGAGE WITH
THESE BEASTS.

THEY ARE
MINE...



...AND
THE BAIT WILL
BE HERE ANY
MINUTE.



WE MUST
FORAGE, TANA.
WE HAVE NO MEAT!
WE CAN'T LIVE ON
RAW GARBAGE AND
STRAY RATS
ALONE!

BUT
WE--



WAIT!
WHAT'S
THAT...
...SOUND?

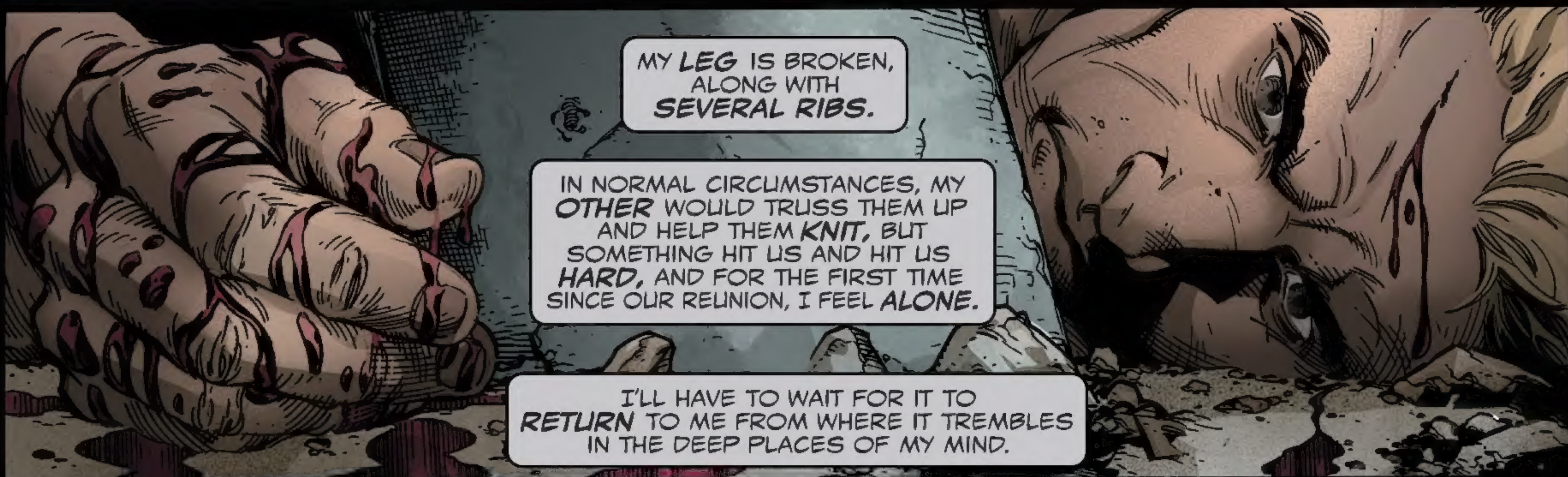


RATS!



I WAKE UP TO AN **ALARM BELL** RINGING, AND FOR A SECOND I THINK I'M BACK IN PRISON AND THERE'S ANOTHER **RIOT**.

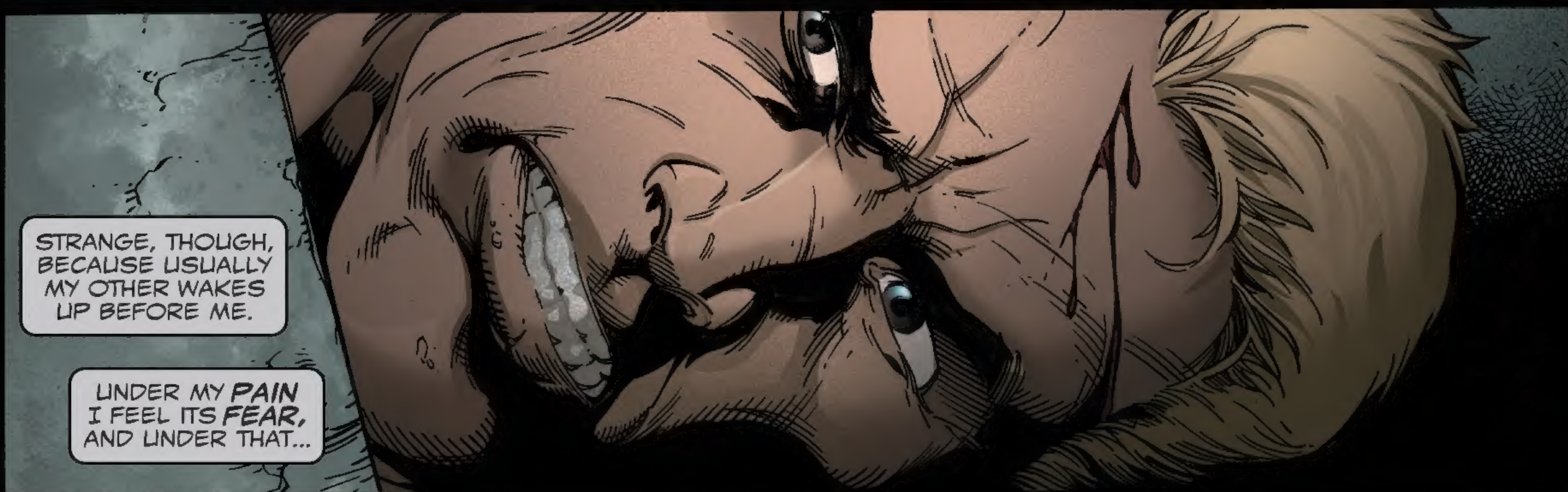
BUT THEN I SENSE MY **OTHER**, STILL VIBRATING IN COLD SHOCK. IT'S SILENT, AND I REALIZE THE **RINGING** IS IN MY **EARS**.



MY **LEG** IS BROKEN, ALONG WITH **SEVERAL RIBS**.

IN NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, MY **OTHER** WOULD TRUSS THEM UP AND HELP THEM **KNIT**, BUT SOMETHING HIT US AND HIT US **HARD**, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE OUR REUNION, I FEEL **ALONE**.

I'LL HAVE TO WAIT FOR IT TO **RETURN** TO ME FROM WHERE IT TREMBLES IN THE DEEP PLACES OF MY MIND.



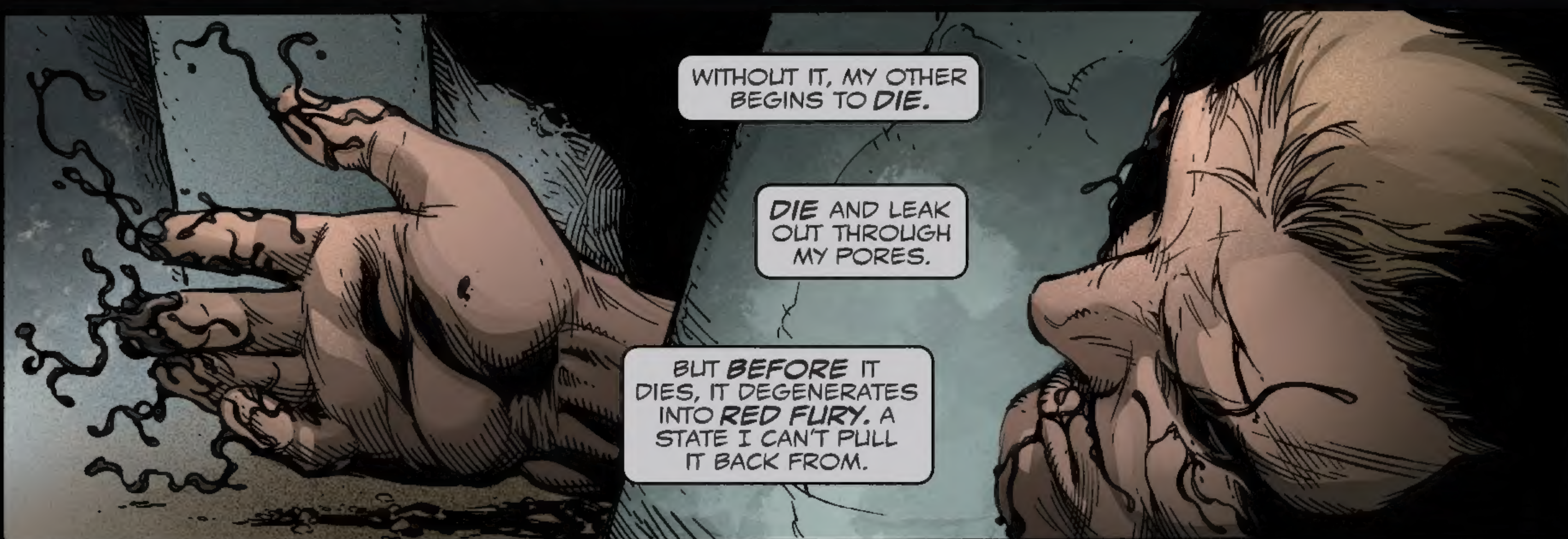
STRANGE, THOUGH, BECAUSE USUALLY MY **OTHER** WAKES UP BEFORE ME.

UNDER MY **PAIN** I FEEL ITS **FEAR**, AND UNDER THAT...



...THERE'S A **RAGE** BUILDING. A **BRAINLESS FURY**.


AND I'M OVERDUE FOR THE TREATMENT THAT KEEPS IT IN CHECK.



WITHOUT IT, MY **OTHER** BEGINS TO **DIE**.

DIE AND LEAK OUT THROUGH MY PORES.

BUT **BEFORE** IT DIES, IT DEGENERATES INTO **RED FURY**. A STATE I CAN'T PULL IT BACK FROM.



AND IN
A FEW HOURS
NOW...WE'LL BE
OVERDUE...

...AND THEN
WE **BOTH**
DIE.

TO BE CONTINUED...



Eddie's Clubhouse

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DEVIN LEWIS
EDITOR
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AXEL ALONSO
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SEND E-MAILS TO SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM (PLEASE MARK "OKAY TO PRINT"!)

EDDIE BROCK... INJURED, ALONE, AND BEARING THE WEIGHT OF AN ENTIRE CITY BLOCK ON HIS BACK!

Hello, Venomaniacs, and welcome to another installment of your favorite letter column in comics!

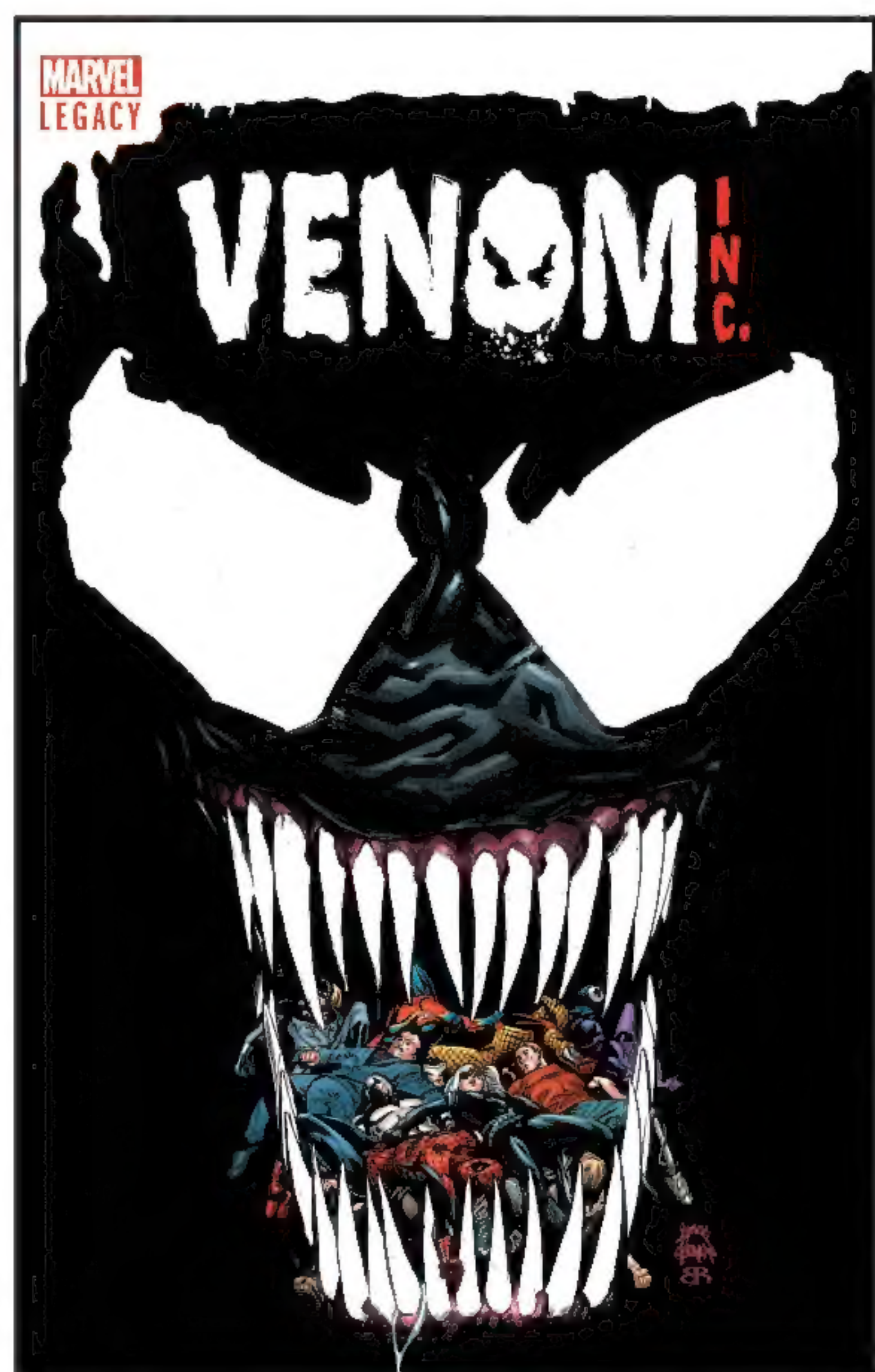
As I write this, we've just wrapped up the most exciting comic convention this side of the Mason-Dixon Line, **NEW YORK COMIC CON!**

And, boy, did you Venom fans come out in **FORCE!** I'm always impressed by all the incredible cosplay, energy and excitement on the show floor, and this year was no exception.

And in few places did you Venom fans make your presence known more than in the **SPIDER-MAN AND HIS AMAZING FRIENDS** panel! When it came time to share some of what we've been cooking up for your favorite slobbering symbiote, the room burst into outright applause, so thanks to all you Venomaniacs who turned up and showed your symbiotic support!

And for those of you who weren't able to make it to the show, don't forget to show your support by going to your comic shops and tellin' them that you want the best – and the best is **VENOM!**

ITEM: We were also lucky enough to make some symbiote-centric announcements at this year's Spidey panel – including officially announcing **VENOM INC.!**



Those of you who picked up **VENOM #156** already got a sneak peek at this, the **FIRST-EVER** Venom/Spider-Man crossover story, and it's a doozy. Someone's gunning for Spider-Man and Venom, and they'll have no choice but to team up to save the people they care about most in the world.

I'm **SURE** that'll go over without a hitch, right?

...Right?

ANYWAY! Keep your eyes peeled on future letter columns for more **VENOM INC.** info, as well as some hints about what else we've got in store for your favorite wicked webslinger! And if you **ABSOLUTELY** can't wait, try googling **POISON X** and see what you discover...

All right – enough pluggin'! Let's get to your letters!

Hi, Team Venom,

I wrote in for **VENOM #150** and **VENOMVERSE #1**, so I'm in for the Venom ride.

VENOM #154 was one of my favorite standalone issues ever, and issue #155 is an amazing start for this story. Venom and Kraven have a crazy-weird history. I remember Eddie disemboweling Kraven's son, I believe. And, of course, Flash Thompson bumped heads with him in the second issue of his series. It'll be cool to see the original, raw Venom take on Kraven the Hunter and I'm so on board! #TeamEddie.

Sincerely,

A Venomite named Jesse <3

Hi, Jesse! And thanks for reading and for your letter! I think I know the story you're referring to – from back when **VENOM** was on the Sinister Six (with **DYNAMITE** John Romita Jr. illustrations to boot, if memory serves!)! If I'm not mistaken, Kraven's son, Alyosha, was indeed hunted by Venom, but **NOT** killed by him.

I might be wrong, though, so if one of you readers out there in mighty Marvel-dom happens to have the issue in question in your collection, take a snapshot!

Who knows?! Maybe we'll even make it a permanent fixture of Venom letter columns – you Venomaniacs proving me wrong!

Dear Venom Team,

Amazing! That is what I thought of **VENOM #154**. The story was very interesting to see from the perspective of the symbiote. Paulo's art was amazing. I hope that he

can come back to do art for future issues. I really like how he captured Venom's facial expressions. The more human-like mouth hearkens back to early Todd McFarlane Venom. It almost felt like stepping back in time. Great work!

Gaetan B.
San Rafael, California

Hey, Gaetan! It's great to hear that you've enjoyed what we've done in **VENOM** so far! Todd has been a direct influence upon the aesthetic of all things **VENOM** lately, and it's great to see that it's been showing through in the work.

Thanks for reading!

Dear Eddie's Clubhouse,

Just writing about **VENOM #155**.

I read this comic the day it came out and I cannot stop thinking about it. Just phenomenal writing and artwork. I just wanted to show some love. <3

Adam M.

And we love you right back!

Thanks for reading!
OVER AND OUT!

Devin

NEXT ISSUE:



